**PRISMA 2009 Flow Diagram – modified for living reviews**

Full-text articles excluded (n=6). Reason: could not confirm at least 75% of patients had sepsis. See reconciliation of studies table

Citations excluded

(n = 593)

Additional Citations identified through database searching and alerts  
PubMed Boolean (n=122)

PubMed Vector (n=66)

ClinicalTrials.gov (n=24)

Cochrane Central (n=134)

Citations identified through Cited References of high impact studies and containing ‘randomized’ via Web of Science:

Cited PRORATA (n = 174)

Cited Prnko (n=81)

Citations screened   
(n = 612)

Studies included in quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis)   
(n =13)

Studies included in qualitative synthesis   
(n = 13)

Full-text articles assessed for eligibility   
(n = 19)

Citations identified through existing meta-analyses   
(details in the Reconciliation of trials table online)

(n = 19)

## Identification

## Eligibility

## Included

## Screening